



WORLD COUNCIL—NATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORT

The following data on Disciples' support of National Council—World Council of Churches' budgets has been assembled for congregations presently drawing up their annual budgets:

Total World Council Budget

1954 approved level	\$421,000
1957 additional required	53,000
1957-58 budget	\$474,000
Disciples' "fair share" quota at 1954 level	\$19,050.00
Disciples' local church contributions, 1957	14,426.43

Additional needed to make up our "share" at 1954 level \$4,623.57

Disciples' Contributions by States

States	Number of Churches		Amounts	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
Alabama	3	2	\$ 50.00	\$ 35.00
Arizona	4	5	77.50	73.50
Arkansas	8	4	140.00	60.00
California	48	45	1,160.13	1,145.70
Colorado	8	7	169.88	143.37
Connecticut	....	1	.....	100.00
Washington, D. C.	3	4	60.00	103.75
Florida	7	6	210.00	175.00
Georgia	5	4	110.00	185.00
Idaho	....	1	.....	10.50
Illinois	23	28	649.25	654.25
Indiana	39	51	1,212.97	1,357.12
Iowa	23	19	467.69	380.61
Kansas	19	17	413.98	310.63
Kentucky	29	24	720.00	642.50
Louisiana	4	9	51.75	124.56
Maine	....	....	.....	.....
Maryland	1	1	10.00	10.00
Massachusetts	....	....	.....	.....
Michigan	9	10	270.00	205.00
Minnesota	5	4	90.00	75.00
Mississippi	4	3	150.00	130.00
Missouri	42	43	1,390.06	1,328.81
Montana	1	1	25.00	25.00
Nebraska	7	5	97.50	66.00
Nevada	....	....	.....	.....
New Hampshire	....	....	.....	.....
New Jersey	1	1	50.00	50.00
New Mexico	2	2	75.00	36.00
New York	9	11	425.00	132.50
North Carolina	8	8	137.00	135.00
North Dakota	....	....	.....	.....
Ohio	48	44	1,177.50	1,087.50
Oklahoma	23	20	736.14	663.86
Oregon	5	3	187.44	115.00
Pennsylvania	5	5	71.02	61.23
Rhode Island	....	....	.....	.....
South Carolina	....	....	.....	.....
South Dakota	1	1	20.00	20.00
Tennessee	9	6	775.00	392.50
Texas	58	58	2,410.71	2,085.24
Utah	....	....	.....	.....
Vermont	....	....	.....	.....
Virginia	18	16	243.55	184.72
Washington	7	6	250.00	255.00
West Virginia	8	8	204.52	164.27
Wisconsin	....	....	.....	.....
Wyoming	2	2	60.00	60.00
Canada	....	....	.....	.....
Hawaii	1	1	50.00	25.00
Total	497	486	\$14,398.59	\$12,777.12

National Council General Budget

1956 income goal from churches	\$520,000.00
Disciples' "fair share" quota from local churches	32,600.00
Disciples' local church contributions 1956	24,839.62

Additional needed to make up our "share" \$ 7,760.38

Disciples' Contributions by States

States	Number of Churches		Amounts	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
Alabama	5	4	\$ 95.00	\$ 45.00
Arizona	4	5	56.00	75.00
Arkansas	10	8	205.00	155.00
California	79	76	2,048.76	1,758.82
Colorado	12	10	321.50	273.00
Connecticut	2	1	150.00	300.00
Washington, D. C.	4	5	75.00	127.50
Florida	8	9	201.43	188.84
Georgia	9	8	250.00	250.00
Idaho	2	1	35.00	20.00
Illinois	57	52	1,630.13	1,440.13
Indiana	64	61	2,020.07	2,227.12
Iowa	39	24	1,015.69	740.27
Kansas	33	29	878.25	784.40
Kentucky	45	42	1,308.00	1,314.00
Louisiana	7	7	100.70	129.09
Maine	1	1	15.00	15.00
Maryland	7	7	104.10	160.05
Massachusetts	3	2	60.00	60.00
Michigan	14	15	350.00	350.00
Minnesota	9	7	230.00	205.00
Mississippi	4	1	155.00	5.00
Missouri	67	62	2,477.31	2,466.80
Montana	3	4	55.00	170.00
Nebraska	12	11	348.50	276.50
Nevada	....	1	.....	25.00
New Hampshire	1	....	5.00	.....
New Jersey	2	1	165.00	115.00
New Mexico	4	4	165.00	145.00
New York	17	15	510.00	202.00
North Carolina	17	14	287.00	275.00
North Dakota	....	....	.....	.....
Ohio	87	82	2,519.84	2,708.01
Oklahoma	34	35	1,458.51	1,207.14
Oregon	5	7	219.14	237.17
Pennsylvania	20	22	504.52	546.65
Rhode Island	....	....	.....	.....
South Carolina	....	1	.....	10.00
South Dakota	1	1	20.00	20.00
Tennessee	12	11	510.00	442.00
Texas	83	79	3,226.92	3,681.19
Utah	1	....	10.00	.....
Vermont	....	....	.....	.....
Virginia	32	33	573.82	692.12
Washington	12	9	505.00	470.00
West Virginia	18	15	391.68	343.61
Wisconsin	1	2	10.00	85.00
Wyoming	1	2	50.00	66.21
Canada	1	1	2.00	2.00
Hawaii	1	1	25.00	25.00
Total	850	778	\$25,132.89	\$24,839.62

Principles of Disciples' Support as Defined by Past Conventions:

- That Disciple support should come directly from local congregations to the National and World Councils.
- That every congregation should make some contribution to each.
- That congregations which have not done so should raise their level of support by 25% over the 1955 level.
- Contributions should be marked "Disciples' Quota" and sent direct to:

World Council of Churches	National Council of Churches
156 Fifth Avenue	297 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.	New York 10, N. Y.

1958-1959 YEAR OF EMPHASIS

"Responsible Disciples—Mission Begun"

(READ—REMEMBER—UNITE)

PLAN NOW

- 1) Set-up committees
- 2) Determine objectives
- 3) Review resources
- 4) Plan the year's program
- 5) Draw up calendar
- 6) Order materials early
- 7) Publicize the program
- 8) Launch the program
- 9) Involve every member
- 10) Follow through

SPECIAL UNITY EVENTS

Sept. 21—Launching Day Program
 Oct. 5—World Communion Sunday
 Oct. 19—World Order Sunday
 Oct. 26—Reformation Sunday.
 Nov. 7—World Community Day
 Nov.-Jan.—Regional Consultations on Christian Unity
 Jan. 4-10—Universal Week of Prayer
 Jan. 18-25—Week of Pray for Christian Unity
 Jan. 25-Feb. 1—Ecumenical Youth Week
 Feb. 8—Race Relations Sunday
 Feb. 15-22—Brotherhood Week
 Feb. 15-22—Week of Compassion
 Feb. 16—Universal Day of Prayer for Students
 May 17—Pentecost (Christian Unity Sunday)

This design (in proper form for letterfoot?) is available from Ralph Neill, Director, Department of Public Relations, International Convention office, for use in connection with the brotherhood emphasis for 1958-1959. The three brotherhood organizations cooperating in the 1958-59 Year of Emphasis are the Council on Christian Unity, the Commission for the Promotion of Christian Literature, and the Disciples of Christ Historical Society.

RESPONSIBLE DISCIPLES— MISSION BEGUN



**1958-1959 EMPHASES
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

UNITY MATERIALS

Available — Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis, Missouri:

Year of Emphasis Manual, 48 pp. program suggestions on Disciple History, Literature, Unity, price 50c.

Minister's Handbook on Christian Unity, ca. 120 pp., probable price \$2.50, available September.

Preaching on Christian Unity, ed. Robert Tobias, \$3.00, available October 17.

Litany for Year of Emphasis Launching Service, September 21, 1 p. prayer responsive reading for dedication, 1c ea. in lots of 50.

Christian Unity—Mission Begun, A Progress Report, sound film strip, 23 min.; sale \$10.00, rental \$2.50; available August (also available, Religious Film Library, 222 S. Downey Ave., Indianapolis).

Available — Council on Christian Unity, 222 S. Downey Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana:

Together . . ., brochure on the relation of the local church, the local council of churches, the Council on Christian Unity, the National Council of Churches, and the World Council of Churches and the ecumenical work of each, 16 pp., \$6.00 per 100 copies, single copies free.

Ecumenical Studies Guide, for local church studies, ca. 76 pp., 50c.

Disciples and Christian Unity, brochure on structure and work of the Council on Christian Unity, \$3.50 per 100 copies, single copy free.

Ecumenical Book Shelf, a list of publications, single copy free.

Ecumenical Studies Series (quarterly), and *Christian Unity Newsletter* (quarterly), \$3.00 annually (includes Council membership).

Our Relations Abroad, a series of survey reports, area by area; Council on Christian Unity, ca. 35c.

Unity Packet, (sample copies of flyers, brochures, and other basic documents for ecumenical orientation and study). ca. 50c.

Nottingham To France

Mr. William J. Nottingham has been appointed by the Department of Ecumenical Service of the Council on Christian Unity as a fraternal worker to CIMADE, ecumenical service agency of the Federation of Protestant Churches in France, beginning September 1, 1958. Mr. Nottingham's support is provided through Week of Compassion.



Mr. Nottingham

As associate director of CIMADE, Mr. Nottingham's work will involve visitation and consultation among CIMADE team members from Berlin to North Africa, coordination between the various refugee relief and theological efforts of CIMADE, ecumenical interpretation among French churches, student movements, and other ecumenical activities.

Mr. Nottingham has served as associate minister of the National City Christian Church, Washington, D. C., since November, 1954. During that time he was chairman of the Washington Council of Churches' Group Work Committee, which sponsors a co-operative summer program for more than a thousand children of the inner city.

Before going to Washington, Mr. Nottingham was a Fulbright scholar in Strasbourg, France, where he did research on the Protestant Reformation. A graduate of the class of 1949 at Bethany College, West Virginia, he received his B.D. degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York and is currently working towards a Ph.D. degree from Columbia University.

Mr. Nottingham was ordained into the Christian ministry in 1945 in his home church at Sharon, Pennsylvania. Upon graduation from Bethany College, he served a year and a half as pastor of the Christian Churches at Canoe Camp and Covington, Pennsylvania. While at Union Seminary he did student field work at the Church of the Master with Dr. James H. Robinson, pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. Nottingham and their three children will make their home in Paris during the proposed three-year term of service abroad.

REPORT OF DISCIPLES' ECUMENICAL STUDIES

Lordship of Christ

A draft report of "The Lordship of Christ Over the World and the Church—from a Disciple Point of View," a study by a committee of Disciple scholars, has been completed and copies of it have been sent to the World Council's Faith and Order Commission. The committee, set up by the Department of Ecumenical Study of the Council on Christian Unity, has been working for over a year. This study by Disciples is a part of a larger study by the Faith and Order Commission.

Members of the study committee were: Dr. William Moore, Professor of New Testament at the Divinity School of Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, Chairman; Dr. Edwin Becker, Professor of Applied Christianity and Acting Dean of the Drake Divinity School; Dr. Leslie Kingsbury, Minister of First Christian Church, Manhattan, Kansas; Dr. Dale Miller, Professor of Religion, Drake University; and Dr. Tom Slavens, Minister of First Christian Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Baptism

The Commission on the Study of Baptism, set up by the Department of Ecumenical Study of the Council on Christian Unity has begun its work with a review of present materials on baptism, according to a report by Dr. W. B. Blakemore, Dean of the Disciples' Divinity House at the University of Chicago and Chairman of the Commission. The members of the commission are now studying several basic documents, including studies of the Biblical and early church background on baptism, a working paper prepared by the Theological Committee of the Faith and Order Department of the World Council, and a set of materials prepared by Marcus Barth of the University of Chicago.

During the first year of its study the Commission will concentrate on an exchange of papers within the group. Then it will begin the writing of a joint paper. The work of the Commission, designed to produce materials for critical study by Disciples and to project Disciple thought into the ecumenical discussion, will be extended over several years.

Rapid Social Change

The establishment of a Commission on the Churches and Rapid Social Change has been authorized by the Council on Christian Unity. The commission is to carry out a program of study related to the World Council of Churches' study on "The Common Christian Responsibility Toward Areas of Rapid Social Change." The commission was created in response to an invitation to participate in this larger study now in process under the direction of a Working Committee of the Department of Church and Society of the World Council.

The Commission will concern itself with these four questions:

- (1) Do the churches have a conception of society, of social change, and of the nature and function of the church in relation to a changing society that is adequate to the situation of rapid social change in America and elsewhere?
- (2) What in fact are the manifestations and nature of rapid social change in our society, especially within the United States, and what is the impact such change is having and promises to have on the life of the people of America and Asia, Africa, and Latin America?
- (3) What are the moral, spiritual and religious problems raised or accentuated by the fact of rapid social change in America, and how do these effect the welfare and prospects of life in America and other areas?
- (4) What is the significance of the present social change for the policy and program of the churches? How can the churches of the West respond most creatively in helping to develop adequate social, economic and political institutions and activities in the more needful areas?

Dr. Walter W. Sikes, Professor of Christian Ethics, School of Religion, Butler University, Indianapolis, will serve as Chairman of the Commission and Director of the project. Approximately 20 persons, each selected because of his training and ability to bring some special skill in one or more of the needed disciplines for this study will serve on the Commission.

Theology of Missions

The Department of Ecumenical Studies of the Council on Christian Unity and the Division of World Missions of the United Christian Missionary Society are now in the process of setting up a study commission on the Theology of Missions. Its purpose will be to re-study the theology of missions in light of recent theological thought and ecumenical developments.

Some of the issues listed for study by the Commission are:

- (1) Does the driving force of missions derive from "ends" or inspiration?
- (2) What is the significance for missions of an enlarged and deepened concept of "world"?
- (3) Should missions concentrate on individual concerns, church establishment, or something else?
- (4) What are the respective roles of "missioners," God, Holy Spirit, church in missions?
- (5) What is the theological significance of "relief" missions as against "evangelistic" missions?

Eventually it is expected that this study will be joined with studies in two other related areas.

Biblical Theology

A study commission on Biblical Theology has been established by the Department of Ecumenical Study of the Council on Christian Unity. The commission will relate Disciples to a worldwide study on this subject. Dr. William L. Reed, Professor of Old Testament, College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky, has been named chairman of an exploratory commission to determine the scope of the study.

Special areas of consideration will be:

- (1) The "practical theology" of laymen as related to the Bible.
- (2) The use of the Bible by the clergy.
- (3) Seminaries and Biblical Theology.
- (4) Disciples self-concept as a denomination as related to the Bible.

The Council's Executive Committee has authorized an approach to foundations for financial underwriting of the project.

Unity Consultations Planned

A series of 2-3 day Area Unity Consultations are to be held in the fall and winter of 1958-59. The consultations will be jointly sponsored by the Council on Christian Unity and the Divisions of Home and World Missions of The United Christian Missionary Society. The purpose of the consultations will be to consider some of the main ecumenical issues now confronting the church with a view to stating some principles regarding the general direction Disciples should take in study and action.

The consultations, according to draft plans approved by the sponsoring agencies, are to be held on Disciples' seminary campuses with additional consultations on the East and West coasts. Specific dates, schedules, and leaders for each area consultation are now being worked out with the seminaries and state secretaries.

Participants in the consultations, including mainly pastors and professors, plus representative laymen, women, youth, and seminary students, will be selected by the seminary and state officers in each area. Leadership for each consultation will be drawn primarily from that area with national staff personnel brought in as consultants.

Four main issues have been listed by the national planning committee for consideration:

- (1) The Divine Imperative for Unity—A Theological Restatement.
- (2) The Kind of Unity Disciples Hope For.
- (3) Specific Issues Involved in Merger Possibilities: Theology, Polity?
- (4) Our Witness and Involvement Abroad—(Key issues, principles, policies).

Preparatory working papers on each of these four main issues are to be drafted at a summer meeting of selected leaders and circulated to the participants before the consultations. Presumably other papers by men in the area will be read at the consultations, and will be given informal group study.

Significant papers and findings of these consultations will presumably be pulled together for wider circulation.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Methodist-Episcopal Relations

Tentative suggestions for reaching intercommunion between the Methodist Church and the Protestant Episcopal Church have been drawn up by the unity commission of both bodies. Conversations between the two commissions began in 1942.

Okinawa Council Formed

The Okinawa Christian Council was formed in February to include delegates of the United Church of Christ of Okinawa, the Episcopal (Anglican) Church, the Baptist churches, the Seventh Day Adventists and the Holiness Church.

Two U. S. Churches

Consider Merger

A merger of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America and the Pilgrim Holiness Church has been recommended by joint commissions of the two groups. The two churches have a combined membership of about 90,000 in 2,000 widely scattered congregations in the U. S.

U K Free Churches—Unity?

A majority of Free Church Councils in the United Kingdom do not think the "time is ripe" for organic unity between the Free Churches in the country, according to a recent survey.

Inter-Church Aid

More than a million Finnish marks (over \$4,000) were given by parishes of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Orthodox Church and the Methodist Church for inter-church aid in Finland's first ecumenical offering.

Contributions to inter-church aid from churches in Britain has risen from 30,000 pounds (\$84,000) in 1952 to 230,000 pounds (\$644,000) in 1957.

Mr. Wayne H. Bell, Minister of Seventh Street Christian Church, Richmond, Virginia, has been appointed by the Executive Committee as a member of the Study Department of the Council on Christian Unity. Mr. Bell will serve out the unexpired term of Mr. Waymon Parsons, Minister of Shaker Heights Christian Church, Cleveland, Ohio, whose health necessitated cutting down on activities away from Cleveland.

Relations With United Church

The Executive Committee of the Council on Christian Unity has authorized a series of studies on ecclesiological and theological issues involved in Disciple relations with the new United Church of Christ and possible implications if the two groups should move closer together in fellowship.

Study groups scattered over the U.S. will be asked to consider some specific issues and the results of these studies will be pulled together in a report to the Executive Committee.

Responses to Oberlin

The Executive Committee of the Council on Christian Unity has asked three men to draft responses to the Oberlin (1957) Faith and Order Conference on "The Nature of the Unity We Seek." They are Dr. Ronald E. Osborn, Professor of Church History, School of Religion, Butler University, Indianapolis; Dr. Robert Tobias, Professor of Ecumenical Theology and History, also at the School of Religion, Butler; and Dr. Howard Short, Professor of Church History, The College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky and editor-elect of the *Christian Evangelist*. All three were Disciple delegates to the Conference.

Theological Education Fund

The International Missionary Council, an agency for the coordination of Protestant missionary work throughout the world, has established a Theological Education Fund for the purpose of providing more adequate training for the Christian ministry in the younger churches. The fund will begin its operation in July 1958 with assured resources of \$4,000,000. The establishment of this Fund will give a new impetus to theological education in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It has been termed the most important and far-reaching development in the 35 years' history of the IMC.

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